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THE CHRONICLE AND DIRECTORY

FOR 1877.

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A. S. WATSON AND CO., FAMILY AND DISPENSING CHEMISTS.

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827 HONGKONG DISPENSARY.

BIRTH.

On 2nd of June, 1877, the wife of Mr. J. W. DANIELSEN, of a Son.

MARRIAGE.

At Mapleleaf Inn, on 8th May, by the Rev. A. L. Osbaw, James Matheson, Garrison, Esq., Hongkong and Shensi Banking Corporation to Georgina, eldest daughter of R. F. Macfie, Esq., Civil Service, Judge of Sates.

DEATH.

At Residential House, Swatow, on the 4th Inst., Kate Eustice, youngest daughter of T. W. Richardson.

The Daily Press.

must be considered in the light of State papers, they are no doubt perused with unabated interest by Chinese readers, while to foreigners they undoubtedly offer fresh insight into the character, customs, and habits of the people of the Central Kingdom. The Chinese, as is well known, are great admirers of filial constancy, devotion, and self-sacrifice. In China, obedience to parents has always been esteemed a cardinal virtue. The teachings of the sages, the examples of history, as well as tradition and modern practice, all combine to place this duty in the foremost rank. It may be questionable, however, whether this virtue is not often more substantially paraded than really practised out of genuine filial reverence. Superstition, it is to be feared, and dread of being haunted by the shades of the dear departed, frequently have as much to do with the rendering of loyal obedience as a sense of duty or any extraordinary depth of affection. There are, however, many meritorious exceptions. The training up of children in such principles, the constant citation to them of virtuous examples from the classics, and the numerous monuments erected in different parts of China in memory of some particular act of self-sacrifice on the part of living sons or daughters, together unite to imbue the mind of young China with a respect and love for its parents which the people of many more civilized nations unhappily fail to acquire.

The *Rocking Gazette* of the 25th ultime contains a rather singular memorial from the Governor-General of Chihli, in which he calls attention to the filial virtue displayed by a lady named WANG, daughter of a former Taedai at Hankow, and grand-daughter of a

former President of the Board of Works, a native of the Kao-yo district Kiangsu, he having, however, resided at Chou Chow for a number of years past. From her earliest youth, the memorial states, this young lady has exhibited a decorous propriety of conduct and a love of study. She was a diligent reader of Liu Hsiang's Lives of Virtuous Women, and the poem of Mu Lin.

At the age of thirteen, when it was proposed to betroth her, at the first hint of this reaching her ears, she retired to her room, and drew with a pointed instrument blood from her arm, with which she wrote a sentence denoting her intention to remain single in order to devote herself to the care of her parents." But this act of devotion is only one of many by this high-minded girl, and the memorial proceeds to state that in 1852 she had been compelled, by a military telegram, to leave her home, and was

advised to seek refuge with her mother, who spoke French, at the time of the rebellion of the Chinese. Yenck Bag, the Russian agent, with the Khan, on their remains being brought home she exclaimed, amid her tears, "that since she could not follow her father to the tomb, her mother being still alive, her blood should

be used against the Khan of Kashgar." The Khan being fearful as to the result of a pitched battle with the rebels, he sent his troops to the aid of Toksun, where he besieged the attack of the Chinese. Yenck Bag, the Russian agent, with the Khan, had despatched a messenger to General Kaufman in Turkestan, for the purpose of his retirement. I, of course, don't know. The defendant, however, is inadmissible in defending the case and instructed Mr. Francis to represent him in court. Mr. Francis was not compromised by any statement the defendant had made to his witness, but made

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that Government inquiries have been made as to the amount of tonnage that would be required for the shipment of 15,000 men to stations in the Persian Gulf.

Constantinople, 24th May.
Constantinople has been placed in a state of siege. The demonstration of the Subas only numbered 2,000. A deputation of five of them was admitted to the Turkish Chamber of Deputies, and they demanded certain Ministerial modifications. A Court Martial has been ordered on the Governor of Ardahan fortress with reference to the retreat of the Turks from it. From that place, however, the Russians have withdrawn, and the Russians, who had 15,000 men at the Warden and 55,000 men are already concentrated on the upper and middle Danube. The river has settled down, but it is not probable that the passage can be made before the middle of June.

LONDON, 25th May.

Consols 85. Bar Silver 14s. Exchange on India 1s. 811-104. 4 per Cent. 842. 44. 51. 882.

BERLIN, 25th May.

The Berlin semi-official journals have assumed a hostile tone towards the French Ministry.

LONDON, 26th May.

Late news from the seat of war in Asia Minor state that Russian troops are making rapid marches towards Erzeroum, and that their vanguard has already reached Olti, whilst the left wing is marching through the passes of Kars. The position of the Turks consequent on these movements of the enemy, is therefore, considered critical.

LONDON, 27th May.

The Persian Minister at Constantinople has presented a Note to the Porte containing most pacific assurances from the Shah.

The last news from the seat of war states that the headquarters of the Russian Army Corps of the Caucasus have been transferred to Aleksandropol, and that the left wing has reached Derbent. A Turkish ironclad has been sunk at Ibrahim by a torpedo vessel.

LONDON, 28th May.

The rivers Danube, Abuta and Sereth have overflowed. Advice from the seat of war in Asia Minor state that the Russian troops from Ardahan have joined the main body of the army before Kars.

PARIS, 28th May.

Marshal MacMahon has made a specific speech, in which he said that France would take no part in the present European complications.

ATHENS, 28th May.

The Greek ministry has remained silent.

BERLIN, 29th May.

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LONDON, 29th May.

Consols 95. Bar Silver 53d.

BERLIN, 29th May.

The semi-official organ, the Provincial Correspondence, lays stress upon the alarm that Germany has taken in the efforts for the maintenance of European peace.

BERLIN, 29th May.

No news states that the Russo-German alliance is to remain intact, as defined in the speech made by Mr. Cross in the House of Commons on the 7th May, wherein he said that England's interest was to protect the Suez Canal and guard Egypt, and permit no interference with the freedom of the passage of the Dardanelles and Suezphorus.

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

FRIDAY, 15th June.

Sales of New Paiza to-day at \$600, and of sets of Old at \$574, and Old at \$555. Malwa quoted at \$580, exclusive of allowance. The stock of New Paiza given at 800 cts., and of Old at 1,400 cts.; of New Benares at 400 cts., and of Old at 10 cts.; of Malwa at 250 cts.

EXPORT CARGOES.

For steamship *Kashmir*, Calcutta, 24.
For London, 700 cts. 7,015 half-chests, and 5 drags. 255 bales Raw Silk. 38 boxes Silk Flax Goods. 2 boxes Pongee. 791 pks. Sundries. For Gilbrary 16 boxes. 56 half-chests Tea. For Mula 30 boxes Tea. For Consulents 42 boxes Raw Silk. 22 boxes Coconuts, and 40 pks. Sundries.

EXCHANGE.

ON LONDON—Bank Bills, on demand..... 3/11
Bank Bills, at 30 days sight 4/11
Bank Bills, at 6 months sight 4/11 to 4/1
Documentary Bills, at 6 months' sight..... 4/1 to 4/11
ON BOMBAY.—Bank, sight..... 22
ON CALCUTTA—Bank, sight..... 22
On STEPHENS.—Bank, sight..... 74
Private, 30 days' sight..... 75

SHAKES.

Hongkong and Shanghai Bank Shares—40 per cent. premium.
Union Insurance Society of Canton—\$750 per share.
Okinawa Traders' Insurance Company's Shares—\$3,500 per share.
Chinese Insurance Company—\$225 per share.
Hongkong Fire Insurance Company's Shares—\$60 per share.

THE CONDITION AND RESOURCES OF YUNNAN.

The account given by Mr. Davenport of the condition and resources of the province of Yunnan, agrees in the main with previous statements made on the subject. He reports, of course, a mass of new information, which has evidently been collected with much industry and care, and will be perused with much interest. Yunnan is obviously still suffering from the singularly straggling between the Government and the Mahomedans, and will be seen to have recovered from the desolation and destruction wrought by the Imperial army. The slaughter was on so wholesale a scale that many parts of the country were depopulated, and nearly every town and village reduced to the wreck of its former self. As a consequence, a province, which is exceedingly rich in mineral resources, possessed some hills covered with valuable timber, and produces many other articles of commerce, is plunged into a state of semi-pauperism, and decadence is visible in every city and town.

The agriculture is carried on, trade limited, the valuable mines lie, for the most part, unworked, and manufacturing industry is almost entirely extinct. No wonder, therefore, that the sparse population suffer, and in some districts the most abject want is experienced. At one place near Yangtze, a little official wrote to Mr. Grosvenor concerning the condition of the people, and asking for advice on the subject. He stated "that so great was the wretchedness of the neighbourhood that the poor lived in huts, with scarcely a cloth to wrap around their loins, while grown-up girls sixteen years of age had no clothes whatsoever to wear. The fields remained unploughed, the mines unworked, the hills bare of trees, and the water unprepared for irrigation." This picture of distress does not appear to have been exaggerated, one from Mr. Davenport's remarks, and it certainly forms a significant contrast upon the means adopted by the Chinese Government for stamping out an insurrection. The process may be efficient, perhaps, but it is one that only a semi-barbarous power could resort to, for it involves the almost indiscriminate massacre of the population, whether peaceful or turbulent. No one, taking note of the terrible havoc committed by the Imperial troops in the unhappy province, can fail to sympathise with the Government of Peking in its efforts to repress its authority over Kiangsi.

"But miserable as is the condition of Yunnan at the present time, there is, we should imagine, a possible prospect of future improvement. The report that he wished to abolish the night-pass system in particular excited warm interest, but we have since been given to understand of considerable difficulty, that the Government has no desire or intention of altering or abolishing the system, and regards

NEWS FOR THE ENGLISH MAIL.

THE DEPENDENCY OF KOWLOON.

Until the last few years the dependency of Kowloon has not been regarded as likely to prove of much importance except as a camping and exercise ground for troops. But this illusion has been dispelled. Although few facilities have been afforded till lately, ground has gradually been taken up, and buildings have been erected at Tsien-ta-hau, while at Yau-mab-ko a large native population has collected. All this, too, in spite of a general decline of copper to exist in Yunnan, of which the market is for the most part controlled by the British. Gold and silver are two more important kinds in Shanghai. Gold and silver are two more important kinds in Shanghai.

The Japanese Government are, it appears, buying foreign steamers, probably to the object of facilitating the traffic of copper to China. We hear that the Japanese are now in negotiation for the purchase of two more steamers.

On the 13th inst., by direction of His Excellency the Governor, the Colonial Government fired down hill—most high; and at noon twenty-one minute guns were fired, in memory of the memory of the late Queen of England.

On the 7th instant a Chinese wedding took place before the Registrar. This is the first Chinese civil marriage we understand, which has taken place in the Colony, and was witnessed by the Consul, who is unable to toll his bell, but the work is an urgent one, means no doubt been devised to proceed with it.

I am told that the people of a certain island situated off the coast have closed their shops and suspended business on account of the squeezing practices of the mandarin in charge. He has been advised to repair the damage done to the houses, and to consider the question of the amount of compensation to be paid him. The Chinese are very anxious to have a trial mark. But they are transported a great distance and undergo many difficulties, and are compelled, rather high prices. Mr. Davenport noticed in the shop of Yunnan-fu English broad-cloths, Dutch cambric and cotton from Burmese for Indian.

An extraordinary meeting of the Victoria Recession Club was held on the 11th instant to consider the question of the amount of compensation to be paid him.

It was resolved that the subscription be \$100, and that the sum be paid him as soon as possible.

The Lieutenant-Governor has, I hear, been summoned by the principal mandarin to yamen to consult as to the best method of getting up to repair the break in the wall broken in various parts recently.

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An extraordinary meeting of the Victoria Recession Club was held on the 11th instant to consider the question of the amount of compensation to be paid him.

It was resolved that the subscription be \$100, and that the sum be paid him as soon as possible.

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